

TRUTH-TRIUMPHANT;

IN A

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN A

PAPIST

AND A

QUAKER:

Wherein (I suppose)

Is made Manifest, that *QUAKING*

is the OFF-SPRING of

P O P E R Y.

At the least

The PAPIST and the QUAKER,

Are [*FRATRES UTERINI*]

Both of one VENTER.

FRUTH-TRIUMPHANT:

In a
DIALOGUE
Between a
PAPIST, and a QUAKER.

Papist.

Ood morrow, my half Brother
in Religion.

Quaker.

"Why, what Religion art
thou of?

Papist.

I am a *Roman Catholick*; and
I call thee my half Brother,
because thou art a *Quaker*.

Quaker.

"What Brother-hood or
"Relation can there be between a *Quaker*, and a *Papist*?

Pap. O Brother! We are nearer a kin, than thou art aware
of.

Quak. "That's impossible, for I turnd Quaker to avoid
"Popery: for I did think the Church of *England* would set up
"Popery.

Pap. Nothing less, Brother, for I assure you the Pope, and all
of his Perswasion, of all their Adversaries dread none so much
as the Church of *England*: But to come to the Point, all, or
most part of what you believe, you have from us; for though
I am a Shoo-Maker, and work at my Trade, I am for all that a
Priest, and am sometimes a Quaker, and Preach up your Reli-
gion, as I have done several times at *Bristol*.

Quak. "What should be your Reason to endeavour to set up
"our Religion?

Pap. To make you turn Papists, as you call us.

Quak.

Quak. "This is a strange Riddle to me, pray unfold it.

Pap. That I intend to do ; We must do what we can to cry down the Bible, for that makes clear against us ; and that trick we taught you of calling the Scripture a dead Letter ; Then Secondly, we teach Free-Will to that height, that a Man has Power in himself to please God, and walk uprightly : Do not you believe all this, Brother ?

Quak. "Yea ; Thus far we agree.

Pap. Do you know Cap. *Everard* ?

Quak. "Yea, He was a Godly Man before he turn'd Papist.

Pap. He never was otherwise, he was a Priest too, and commanded by the Pope to pretend to be one of you, the better to oppose the Church of *England*.

Quak. "Strange ! Is it possible ? now I am afraid I am "nearer Popery, than I was aware of : Bless me ! by leaving "the Church of *England* I thought to flie from Popery, and for "ought I percieve, I am running head-long into it.

Pap. Yes Brother, I hope to make you a good Catholick before we part.

Quak. "You can never do that.

Pap. I will either do so, or confirm you where you are.

Quak. "For the latter I am content.

Pap. Have you not heard of my Lady ——— How she run through all Religions ; from a Protestant she turn'd Presbyterian, (to avoid Popery) there she could not rest, because there was a Church-Government, and therefore resembled too much the Church of *England*; and besides, she hearing there were people that Prayed and taught by the Spirit; away she goes to them : To be short, she was one while an Independent, a Quaker, and what not ? Well, at last hearing that the Church of *Rome* had an Infallible guide in Religion, thither she steered her Course, and there she cast Anchor, and continues a good Catholick.

Quak. "I have heard of that Lady you speak of, and for "that reason, and because of what I have heard you say, I love "my Religion never the better for it : there is one only reason "perswades me to continue in it.

Pap. What is that ?

Quak. "I will tell thee, If thou wilt promise me to say "nothing of it.

Pap. I do upon the word of a Priest.

Quak.

Quak. "Then I will tell thee truly; a Sister (for thou must know we call one another Brothers and Sisters) may not deny a Brother to lie with her, if the Spirit moves; for every provocation to that which you call Letchery, We say is Gods Spirit,) nor a Brother a Sister, if the Spirit enable him.

Pap. If that be all, turn Catholick, and I will give thee a Dispensation to have as many Women as thou wilt, or art able to turn to, that die when thou wilt, thou art sure to go to Heaven however.

Quak. "A good Argument I confess, if thou couldst prove thy self enabled thereunto by God Almighty; but I suspect what thou dost offer, is to satisfy our Lusts and Letchery, (no matter for our Souls,) to make us subservient to your ends in this world; whereas what we do is to raise up a Holy Seed unto the Lord; so that by doing him Service, (not by Sinning against him) we indulge much to our own satisfaction, so that we serve him without any trouble either to the Conscience, or the Body: for to give a Licence for Sin is a most horrid thing, to say you have Power to Absolve for Sins past, (as the Church of *England* says,) is not amiss; but that you have Power to give Licence to Sin, is what I can never believe; and therefore for any thing I have yet heard from thee, I will continue as I am; therefore be one of Us, and thou shalt enjoy Multitudes of Women, without offending God.

Pap. I have the same argument to perswade thee to come to us; I can give Indulgencies that shall serve thee and thy Posterity for Thousands of Years.

Quak. "This is like a Doctrine of Ours, that God sees not Sin in Us that are the Godly; if one of Us lie with many Women, we are then raising a Holy Seed, a Royal Priesthood; amongst the Ungodly party, this is Fornication and a Sin; the Goods of the whole World which the wicked possess, belong not to them, they are Ours of right, to dispossess them thereof is no Robbery.

Pap. We say the same; for the Pope hath power to dispose of all the Kingdoms of the Earth, to take them from the wicked, from Hereticks, Schismaticks, Idolaters, &c. and give them to true Catholicks; for those are the truly Godly party.

Quak. "Bless me! where am I? I shall be a Papist I very much fear; nay, I doubt, I have been one all this while.

Pap.

Pap. Doubtless we are very near one another.

Quak. " But I'll get further from thee if I can ; but pray let
" me ask thee one Question ; why are you a greater Enemy to
" the Church of *England*, than to all others that differ from the
" Church of *Rome* ?

Pap. Because they have the resemblance of a Church, which,
none of you have, except the Presbyterian ; and next the Church
of *England* we dread them ; and the more, because they seem
to comply more with the Church of *England*, than formerly,
and begin to perceive it impossible to set up for themselves ; for
when ever they shall attempt it, the Independents will infallibly
supplant them, as formerly ; and they again, (the Independents
I mean) will run into so many Sects of Religion, and Parties,
that they can never subsist ; but must at last be forced to submit
to the Church of *England*, or us of *Rome*.

Quak. " I perceive now I must be either a Protestant, or a
" Papist.

Pap. Without all peradventure you cannot avoid it.

" *Quak.* I'll e'en then turn Protestant, as I was before 1641.

Pap. By no means do so, either come straight to Us, or con-
tinue a Quaker ; Nay, rather that turn Protestant, I'll get thee
a Dispensation from *Rome* to continue a Quaker ; and that thou
shalt not so much as go into Purgatory.

Quak. " Yours is a very brave Religion, if it could hold water ;
" but what assurance have you that God allows this ?

Pap. The Infallibility of the Church.

Quak. " What is that ?

Pap. The truth is, we are not yet agreed amongst Our
selves ; for some of Us (as we Jesuites) do hold the Pope to
be Infallible, that whatsoever He Decrees, We are obliged to
yield unto an implicate obedience and Belief ; others do place it
in a General Council, the Pope presiding over it ; And lastly,
others in a Council only.

Protestant. And I perceive it's no where with you, with us
it is, for now I will argue like a Protestant ; we have Infallibility
in our Church.

Papist. " What is that ?

Prot. The Old and New Testament, for you cannot deny
it to be the Word of God.

Papist.

Papist. "That we cannot, but this we say, That it is but
"a dead Letter, without the Interpretation of the Church.

Prot. Whoop holy day! I think your Worship will turn
Quaker.

Papist. "No such thing, I warrant you; but to proceed,
"and to speak to you, as to a Protestant. All your Opposers pro-
"duce the Bible against you, as well as against us; What can
"you answer to that?

Prot. Let right take place; but by the way, this is foul play,
for you to urge me to answer you as a *Hydra*, with so many
Heads; Will you be a Papist, a Presbyterian, Independent, Qua-
ker, and every thing at once? This is to be a right Jesuite indeed,
but I will allow you all this advantage: I will therefore go on, as
I said before, let the right take place; for the Church of *England*
has the advantage over all her Opposers above-mentioned, and
over ten thousand more, if she had so many; for against you
all, she has a claim to this Infallible Guide of the Word of
God, with all the difficulties therein contained, explained by all
Antient Fathers and Councils, against which no sober man
can except. So that we have the Bible against you, and against
them; and against you we have the Bible, as I said before, ex-
plained, with the four first General Councils, with the Practice
of those times of Purity; besides, is it not familiar with you
of the *Roman* Church (together with all those several enemies
above-named, and Opposers of the Church of *England*) to cry
up Success, and may not Protestants make use of the same Plea,
so far especially as it is *Argumentum ad hominem*? And so offer
to your prospect and consideration, the miraculous Restauration
of the Church of *England*, in the year, 1660.

Papist. "You mean the Kings Restauration.

Prot. I mean both; but we are now disputing concerning
the Church, not King of *England*; for though you, as being
a Papist, a Priest, and a Jesuite, are an enemy to both Church
and State: But the reason I only name the Church of *Englands*
Restauration, is, because, I conceive, God restored the King, for
the Churches sake; because God knew the King would restore
the Church of *England*, for whose sake God did restore him.
Moreover, I mention the Church of *England* only, because God
has dealt so often miraculously for her. As first, in our King
Henry the Eighth his dayes, that such an occasion of Scandal

The miracu-
lous methods
of God, on the
behalf of Eng-
land, during fe-
veral Successi-
ons of time.

2. should be given to the whole world, as well as to that King in particular ; that though he did not so very much alter the *Roman* Religion, yet he absolutely took away the Popes Authority , which was a miraculous step to that more exact Reformation : Which, in the second place, God did miraculously bring to pass, by means of (a Child as I may say) King *Edward* the Sixth.
3. The third Miracle, God did act for the Church of *England*, was, that Queen *Mary*, Espoused to a King of *Spain*, having fully restored Popery , and butchered thousands of Protestants, yet was it not in her power , though assisted with the House of *Austria* (which was then in its Zenith, as I suppose now *France* is) to prevent the wonderfully miraculous Restoration of the Church of *England*, by the ever Famous Queen *Elizabeth* ; and though that Good and Gallant Queen , was in the hands of Her, and the Church of *Englands* adversaries, yet did God miraculously preserve Her , for his Churches sake. And this
4. Church, was likewise, in the fourth place (though indeed not restored, yet powerfully and wonderfully) preserved , when King *James* Succeeded to this great and virtuous Queen. The
5. last Miracle (I pray God this Church may need no more of them) which it pleased God to shew this Church, was in the Year Sixty ; though indeed three more might have been added , so as to have made this fifth the eighth , but for brevities sake , I shall put them together. First, the Defeat of that Navy , which the *Spaniards* called their *Invincible Armado* , in the Year, 1588.
1. Secondly, the miraculous prevention of the Popish Conspiracy, the fifth day of *November*, whereby the King, His Nobles, the chief of the Gentry and Commons in Parliament, should have been blown up. The third, the true Christian Valour and Magnanimity which appeared in His Late Majesty, on the behalf of the Church of *England* , (asserting her Reformation) during all His Sufferings, to the last minute of his Martyrdom. And now,
2. Sir, I hope I have confuted you , by your own way of Argumentation ; and now, Sir, hereafter (if you please) you may worship your great *Diana* of Success.
- 3.

Papist. "Your Successes we cannot deny, but still, I conceive , the Bible is not a sufficient Infallible Guide.

Prot. I think I have very well proved, by the several above-mentioned miracles, that Infallibility of the Bible is for the Church of *England* (as now it is established this Year, 1668. *Jul.*)
against

against your, and all other Dissenters from the Church of *England*; and, in my opinion, is a great sign of her being a true Church, that she is furnished on all sides with good and sound Arguments for her defence, and offending her Adversaries; for, in the first, She opposes to you the Bible, Practice of the Primitive Church, the Antient Fathers, and your own modern ones; and against such as I was once, formerly, She has the same, though She have less occasion to make use of the Bible. Thus is She furnished with complete Armour and Weapons. God Almighty has armed Her *Cap a pe*, against the Devil, and all his Instruments; So that the Gates of Hell shall never be able to prevail against Her.

Papist. You have taken your Common-Prayer Book out of the Mass.

Prot. You have your Mass out of the Jewish Liturgy.

Papist. "How can that be?"

Prot. Are not the *Psalms* of *David* made use of in the Mass?

Papist. "They are, I confess.

Prot. They were, either all, or in part, the Jewish Liturgy.

Papist. "We do confess, they were.

Prot. Then hereafter, tell us no more of our Common-Prayer being taken out of the Mass; and now we are speaking of the *Jews*, let me tell you, that you make use of the same Arguments to oppose us, that the *Jews* did to oppose our Saviour; they urged to our Saviour, That he was an Innovator, and that he opposed the Traditions of their Church; which (say they) had continued, from the establishment of it by God in *Moses's* time. This method you observe against us, calling us Innovators, who are the chiefest opposers of Innovation; for our Churches endeavour, is to cast off what you have innovated in Christian Religion. Let me ask you one Question; Do not you believe, all that the Church of *England* believes?

Papist. "We do, but we believe more.

Prot. Then let me tell you, whatsoever is more, are *Romes* Superstructures, and Innovations; and ought to be rejected of all true Christians.

Papist. "I doubt I have kill'd the wrong man, for I doubted
 "not, from a Quaker to have made you one of us; but instead
 "of that I have made you a Protestant, and for ought I know,
 "I may chance to be one too: But I will not quit the Field yet,
 "but have more discourse with you.

Protest. With all my heart, for (me-thinks) the more I discourse with you, the more I am enabled above my capacity, which I must attribute to Gods goodness, who enables me, a weak Instrument of his, to defend his truth.

Papist. "If it be the truth, I wish it may appear so; in the mean time I shall proceed thus, Your Religion was never heard of before *Luther's* time.

Protest. Is not that Argument worn thread-bare yet? But seeing you insist upon it, I shall repeat unto you, for answer, the words of a Learned Man, out of his Epistle Dedicatory to His present Majesty; the words (as I remember) are these,—“ Since that great Miracle of Divine Providence, in your Majestie’s most happy Restauration, we have seen those, who before triumphed over the Church of *England*, as dead; as much expressing their envie at Her resurrection: Neither could it otherwise be expected, but that so sudden a recovery of Her former Lustre, would open the mouths of Her weak, but contentious Adversaries; who see Her shine in a Firmament, so much above them: But it is a part of Her present Felicity, that they are ashamed of the insulting Question (What is become of your Church now?) and are driven back to their old impertinency (Where was your Church before *Luther*?) They might as well alter the Date of it, and ask where She was before your Majesties Restauration? For as She only suffered an Eclipse, in the late Confusions: no more did She (though of a longer stay) in the times before the Reformation; and it was Her great Honour, that She was not awakened out of it (as of old they fancied) by the beating of Drums, or the rude Clamours of the People; but as She gradually regained Her Light so was it with the Influence of Supreme Authority, which has caused so close an Union and Combination of Interests between them, that the Church of *England*, and the Royal Family, have like *Hipocrates* his Twins, both wept and rejoyced together: And nothing doth more argue, the excellent constitution of our Church, than that therein the purity of Christian Doctrine is joyned with the most hearty acknowledgment of your Majestie’s Power and Supremacy— Thus far that learned Author; I shall add further, That if a Church eclipsed or unseen, shall be the destruction of it, or that there was never any such thing, I would very fain know, where the

Stillinz Rect.

the Church of God was, when (it was said) the whole world was turn'd Arrian; and before our Saviour came into the world, how often was the Church of God invisible, and the Worship or Religion appointed, utterly overthrown by Idolaters? Such as the Church of God was in those days, the same our Church was before the Reformation; and where the one was, there was the other; in Dens and Caves, and in the hearts of good and Religious Men, where God did receive an acceptable Sacrifice. We see in the 19 Chap. of the first Book of *Kings*, verse the 10. how invisible the Church of God was, by the expression of the Prophet *Elias* there, — *I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts; for the Children of Israel have forsaken thy Covenant, broken down thine Altar, and slain thy Prophets with the sword, and I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away*—

1 Kings, Cap.
19. Ver. 10.

These were the words of a true Prophet of the Lord, to whom the Church of God was so invisible to him (though often a fore-seer and fore-teller of future contingencies) that he conceives himself to be the only Servant of the Lord, left upon the face of the earth, yet the Eighteenth verse of the fore-mentioned Chap. God tells the Prophet of Seven Thousand Men in *Israel* remaining, even all the Knees that have not bowed unto Baal, and every Mouth that hath not kist him. — That you see before *Luther's* time, notwithstanding their invisibility (according to this of the Prophet,) God might, and no doubt had thousands of true believers, which had not bowed their knees to your Baal of Rome, and whose Mouths had never kist him; and no doubt, the Simile is very pat between this Baal of *Jezabel's* in the Book of the *Kings*, and your Baal, i. e. the Pope of Rome; for, as this Baal of *Jezabel* was to be Bowed unto, and Kissed; so is your Baal or Pope of Rome likewise to be Bowed unto, and Kissed, (not his Face, but his Toe) even by Emperors, and Kings, as well as by the meanest of his Worshipers and Abettors; and thus according to the Apostle *St. Paul*, in the second of the *Thessalonians* Cap. 2. Ver. 4. *He is an adversary [to our Saviour and his Holy Religion,] and exalteth himself above and against all that is called God, or that is Worshiped; So that He doth sit as God in the Temple of God, shewing himself that He is God. And this truth is yet more confirm'd even by your selves, by whom this Pope is called [Dominus Deus vester Pater,] and so this Pope (in your ordinary discourse either to him, or of him*

Our Saviour did suffer himself to be kissed on the Face; as witness *Judas's* his betraying this Saviour of the World with a kiss.

him) you attribute a Title only due to God, which is,—*His Holiness*. There be three other Texts in this same Chapter, may very well be applyed to your *Baal*, or Pope, Ver. 8, 9, 11. *And then shall the wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of his Mouth, and shall abolish with the brightness of his Coming*, as it is Ver. the 8th. For during the darkness of Superstition and Popery, (the times preceding before *Luther*, *Calvin*, and others) this *Baal* was Worshiped without controll or visible gainsaying; the true Worshipers, those 7000 that had not Bowed to him, nor Kissed him, being as invisible, as to outward prosperity, as those 7000 in the days of *Elias*: But when the time came for the appearance of those glorious Reformers of Religion, and manners according to Gods appointment; for to this, God alone, as it is in the *Acts* of the Holy Apostles, Cap. 1. Ver. 7. *the Times and the seasons the Father hath put into his own Hands*; then did the wicked one [this Roman *Baal*] begin to be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of his Mouth, and abolish with the brightness of coming. Ver. 8. The 9. Ver. is applicable to your *Baal* in your false Miracles, Signs, and Lying wonders; whereby you lie in wait to deceive the Ignorant and simple. This person must be consumed and abolished; even him (as it is Ver. 9.) whose coming is by the effectual working of Satan, with all Power; [the Inquisition, and their visible pretended intallibilty] and Signs, and lying Wonders. — And God knows with such Signs and lying Wonders, false Miracles, &c. Your Church is sufficiently fraught. Ver, 11. is the consequence of the former recited Verses 8, & 9. and therefore God shall send them strong delusions, *that they shall believe Lies*; and this is verified every day, that many among You, (otherwise Learned and wise enough,) do give themselves up to these strong delusions, giving as great credit to your Legends, as the Fables of one *Winifred*, &c. as to the Gospel it self; I could add upon this Subject, but I suppose what I have already said is sufficient to evidence unto you the Errors of Your ways, and the Truth of Ours.

Papist. “I confess, I am very much shaken by your Arguments; and the next time we meet, you may possibly obtain an entire Conquest over me.

Protest. I am very glad it is come to this, which is a kind of new Creation in us; God having thus produced Light out of Darknes:

Darkness : You having thus (contrary to your intent) sent me into the Bosome of the Church of *England*, whereinto I hope you will likewise throw your self; whereby we shall not be half, but whole Brothers, having one Father, (which is God,) one Mother, (the Church of *England*) Jesus Christ the Saviour of the World, being Our elder Brother : In this confidence I dare call you Brother; and Dear Brother, fare you well for this time.

The

The CONCLUSION.

THe Dialogue thus finished ; I think it not amiss to say something concerning the first General Council, that ever was in the Church of Christ ; you have the whole Story of it in the 5th Chap. of the *Acts* of the Holy Apostles ; I shall take notice, that it was not called by the particular direction of any of the Apostles, but that all of them did concur thereunto ; and this was doubtless the Method of the Christian Church, during it's greatest Purity and Integrity ; and the truth is, no other way could be used while the Church of Christ was under Persecution : but in process of time, when supreme powers did recieve, and protect the Christian Faith ; and that (as the Scripture saith,) Kings and Queens were Nursing Fathers, and Nursing Mothers, of the Spouse of Christ ; then were general Councils summon'd by them, and by them were these Councils left to their free Debates and determinations, whose Decrees were afterwards confirm'd by the Supreme Authorities, whereby those Decrees, which before such a Confirmation, did only oblige the Conscience, had then the Coercive Power of the State to compell their Observation ; and this Method did continue, till the Usurpation of the Bishop of *Rome* upon all Powers, both Civil and Ecclesiastical ; for he now takes upon him to assume unto himself the Power of calling Councils, of presiding in them, and Confirming their Decrees ; saying, that without His Confirmation they are invalid. Thus does he make his own Will to be of more Authority, than a General Council ; and this same Will of his, to be Superior to all Supreme Powers and Authorities whatsoever : But I shall add no more upon this Subject, but proceed to what I at first proposed in the begining hereof ; where I shall take notice of some things in the 15th Chap. of the *Acts* of the Holy Apostles, where we read of the first General Council that ever was in the Church of Christ ; (and therefore most likely to be a direction for all others,) it was occasioned by an Appeal made by some converted Gent les, to this General Council, for some Pharisaical Christi-
ans

ans would impose upon these Converted Gentiles the whole Law of *Moses*; therefore to this General Council they do appeal; the words of the Council are these. — *The Apostles, and Elders, and Brethren send Greeting, unto the Brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch, and Syria, and Cilicia.* Ver. 23 of this 15. Chap.

Forasmuch as We have heard, that certain which went out from Us, have troubl'd You with Words subverting Your Souls; saying, Ye must be Circumcised, and keep the Law, to whom We gave no such Commandment. 24.

It seemed good unto Us, being Assembled with one accord, to send chosen Men unto You, with Our beloved Barnabas and Paul. 25.

Men that have hazarded their Lives for the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. 26.

We have sent therefore Judas, and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth. 27.

For it seemed good to the Holy-Ghost, and to Us, to lay upon You no greater Burthen, than these necessary things. 28.

That Ye abstain from Meats offered to Idols, and from Blood, and from things Strangled, and from Fornication; from which if ye keep your selves, ye shall do well; fare ye well. 29.

These be the words together; We shall now take them into parts. — *The Apostles, and Elders, and Brethren.* [There is no Primacy in St. Peter, or in any body else; either first, as to calling of this Council; Secondly, In degree it self; or Thirdly, by way of Confirming this Decree of the Council, Apostles, Elders, and Brethren, are all alike concerned;] *Send Greeting, unto the Brethren, which are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia.* [Now here I cannot but take notice, that the Church of *Jerusalem* treats the Churches of *Antioch*, &c. not with a Maternal, but a Fraternal Appellation; not like the Church of *Rome*; (certainly if ever any had been the Mother-Church, it must have been that of *Jerusalem*, St. Peter, and all the rest of the Apostles; yea, even a General Council there residing,) which makes her self the Mother-Church, and all others she will have to be esteemed but Her Children; and yet in this General Council St. Peter was present, as appears by the 7. Verse of this 15 Chap. and yet St. Peter does not pronounce any Judgement, contenting himself rather with relating matter of Fact, and Paul and Barnabas do the same, as it is Ver. 11. But the Apostle St. James proceeds further in Ver. 13, 14, 15, 16,

17, 18. and in the 19 Ver. is very bold saying; — *Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them which from among the Gentiles are turned to God;* — and Ver. 20, He proceeds. — But that we [here St. James is equal with St. Peter, or any of the rest] write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of Idols, and from Fornication, and from things strangled, and from Blood; -- 'And to this Sentence of St. James the whole Council acquiesces, not any one speaking after St. James;] - *Forasmuch as certain which went out from Us, have troubled you with words subverting your Souls, saying, Ye must be Circumcised, and keep the Law,* to whom We, not St. Peter alone] gave no such Commandment, it seemed good unto Us, being assembled with one accord; [This Council you see was not called by St. Peter alone,] to send chosen men, unto You with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, Men that have hazarded their Lives for the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ; We have sent therefore Judas, and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by word of Mouth, for it seemed good to the Holy-Ghost, and to Us; [you see the Holy-Ghost is not tyed to St. Peter's, or the Pope's Chair, nor the Colledge of Cardinals, but remaining with the General Council) To lay upon you no heavier burthen than the necessary things, that ye abstain from Meats offered to Idols, from Blood, and from things strangled, and from Fornication; [all this, the Sentence of, and Opinion of St. James delivered to the Council, and thus approved of by the Council,] from which if ye keep your selves, ye shall do well, fare ye well.

I have thus run over the words of this first General Council, with some few Animadversions thereon; and if therein I have done the Christ any Service, I have my aim, and do return unto him all Honour, and Glory, for His assistance herein, by whom I have been hereunto enabled.

To the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost, be all Honour, and Glory, now, and for ever. *Amen.*

F I N I S.

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